

Grazing Management



Acoma East Mesa Grazing Unit

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Acoma East Mesa



Acoma East Mesa Grazing Unit was able to leverage funds from NRCS and Lava Soil & Water Conservation District through an EQIP contract. East Mesa Unit was the first tribal organization to develop a grazing management plan for its rangeland.



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McCarty Mesa



McCarty Mesa rangelands are overgrazed and in need of a grazing management plan.

Calves are in a poor condition due to overgrazing and the resulting lack of forage.



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Baca Pasture 13



Fourwing saltbush provides an excellent source of protein for cattle, in contrast to the less nutritious grass forage.

Prior to entering the pasture on December 6, 2001, forage consisted of standing and decadent forage. Fifty-nine (59) mature cows will be permitted on this pasture.



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Baca Pasture 13 (cont.)

January 23, 2001
Range Inspection



Pasture has been impacted by several snowstorms and freezing temperatures.

January 23, 2001



Heavy snows have matted down much of the standing grass forage. Cattle have hedged the fourwing saltbush heavily.



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Baca Pasture 13 (cont.)



Fourwing saltbush is making a good recovery. Western wheatgrass is growing with leaves up to four (4) inches.

Due to abundant moisture, an upsurge of forbs and cool season grasses is evident. This growth is primarily concentrated in microsites, such as arroyo banks, bottoms and swales.



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Sanchez Ranch



A transect vegetation survey and wildlife survey will be conducted on the Sanchez Ranch range.

Sanchez Ranch range is undergoing an assessment for a grazing management plan. This is a joint effort between the Acoma Realty Office, Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.



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Annual 2001-2002 Coordination Meeting



Coordination meeting with Los Pilares Grazing Association, BLM, BIA, and NRCS.



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La Ventana Ranch



La Ventana range is undergoing an assessment for a grazing management plan. This is a joint effort between the Pueblo of Acoma, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. A transect vegetation survey and GPS inventory have been performed.

Berryhill cowboys pay for repair of the old Baca well.



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Kowina Spring



Site of planned 12,000 gallon storage tank. Jurisdictional issues are being addressed by the Pueblo of Acoma and the Bureau of Land Management.



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Forestry Management



Field trip to Putney Mesa with BIA/SPA Forestry staff Cal Pino, Andy Quam, Ron Charlie, Acoma Realty Office, and Bryan Hepting. Small ponderosa vigas are available here.

Putney Mesa contains large stands of ponderosa pine that are also available for harvesting.



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Forestry Management (cont.)



Harvest of large vigas at Putney Mesa by Richard Antonio for home use.

Field trip to Putney Mesa with BIA/SPA Forestry staff Andy Quam, Tribal member Marvin Howeya. Ten (10) ponderosa pine and four (4) Douglas fir were harvested for kiva use.



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Forestry Management (cont.)



An example of a fully grown ponderosa pine at Putney Mesa cutting area.




Sky Mesa Cubee Dam fills up following heavy rainstorms.

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Forestry Management (cont.)



Another timber cutting area on Putney Mesa.




Harvesting vigas at Putney Mesa.

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Forestry Management (cont.)



Designated tree-cutting area near Brushy Mountain and Indian Lake. Tree-cutting permits are required.




Christmas tree-cutting area at Bear Lake.

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Wildlife Habitat Preservation



Two wild turkey graze on open meadow at Brushy Mountain.

Wildlife aerial surveys were performed during winter, 2001 at Long Lake, Indian Lake, Putney Mesa, and Black Mesa. Two elk were spotted at Long Lake.



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Wildlife Habitat Preservation



Two pronghorns grazing at Bar 15 Ranch.



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Woodland Restoration



Woodland restoration project at Techado Mesa (private property located next to Red Lake Ranch). Thinning of pinon and juniper on approximately 700 acres. Cut green wood is salvaged for tribal use.

Field trip to Mertz Ranch, Techado Mesa, with McKinley Ben Miller (BLM) and Tom E. Gow (BLM), 2nd Lt. Governor Rex Salvador (Pueblo of Acoma). The Pueblo has a continuing working relationship with the Bureau of Land Management.



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Coordination with Other Federal/Tribal Agencies



Field trip to Horace Mesa with Federal Aviation Administration, Southwest Region, to assess above ground storage tank location.

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